Top Stories

- The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) must act immediately to improve the safety of pools containing radioactive waste stored at U.S. nuclear plants, an internal NRC report said. *Associated Press* (See item 8)
- Flash flooding closed dozens of streets, and damaged more than 100 homes, many vehicles, and police and public works equipment in several towns on the North Shore in Massachusetts. *WBZ 4 Boston* (See item <u>22</u>)

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Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: <u>Physical:</u> LOW, <u>Cyber:</u> LOW Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) - [http://www.esisac.com]

1. October 6, KSFN 30 Fresno – (California) Storm knocks out power to nearly 30,000. According to Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E), a storm knocked out power to nearly 30,000 customers in Fresno, Tulare, and Kings Counties in California. The biggest outages happened overnight, but customers were without power into the morning of October 5. In Central Fresno, tree branches damaged a power line, forcing crews to clean up while also trying to restore power. But PG&E said the majority of the outages were caused by transformer failures. A spokesman said over the spring and

summer months dust accumulates on the transformers. Then, during the first rain, the combination of water and dust causes some transformers to fail. "It's a very small of minority of transformers, but it's enough to have an impact," the spokesman said. Source: http://abclocal.go.com/kfsn/story?section=news/local&id=8380540

2. October 5, St. Louis Post-Dispatch – (Missouri) Gas tank explosion in Troy, Mo., injures worker. A Kansas man was severely burned by a vapor explosion in an underground gasoline tank October 4, firefighters said. The explosion came from a 6,000-gallon tank at Hilltop Phillips 66, 201 South Lincoln Drive in Troy, Missouri, as a worker was preparing to enter it to perform service work, the fire marshal of the Lincoln County Fire Protection District said. He said heat from a halogen work light lowered into the tank ignited gasoline vapors. The worker sustained a head injury and severe burns to several areas of his body. He was taken by ambulance to Mercy Hospital St. Louis in Creve Coeur. A hospital spokeswoman said the man was in satisfactory condition as of October 5.

Source: http://www.stltoday.com/news/local/stcharles/article 77e049fc-ef71-11e0-82cf-001a4bcf6878.html

3. October 5, Charleston Daily Mail – (West Virginia) Coal-hauling train derails in Kanawha City. Lancaster Avenue near 39th Street in Kanawha City, West Virginia, was blocked after a CSX train derailed October 5, according to Kanawha Metro 911 dispatchers. A dispatcher said a train engine pulling 11 cars fully loaded with coal derailed about 12:42 p.m. Coal spilled out of some of the cars. The dispatcher was unsure how many cars had tipped over. Details as to why the train had derailed were not available. Charleston police officers and firefighters responded. CSX officials are investigating.

Source: http://www.dailymail.com/News/breakingnews/201110052406

4. October 4, Reuters – (International) U.S. to regulate contractors of offshore oil firms. U.S. authorities want to regulate contractors of oil companies that work offshore in the wake of the Gulf of Mexico oil spill, a senior federal official said October 5. "We will regulate contractors as well as operators. There is no compelling reason or logic not to do so," the director of the U.S. Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation, and Enforcement, told an oil conference. The agency is responsible for overseeing development of energy and mineral resources as the successor of the much-criticized Minerals Management Service. During last year's BP oil spill, the role of contractors Halliburton and Transocean came into sharp focus. Under current rules, the operator is accountable for virtually all offshore operations.

Source: http://uk.reuters.com/article/2011/10/04/us-oilsafety-idUKL5E7L433M20111004

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Chemical Industry Sector

5. October 6, Norfolk Virginian-Pilot – (Virginia) Spills into Nottoway River net \$1 million in penalties. Three companies that run a chemical plant in Franklin, Virginia,

have agreed to pay more than \$1 million in penalties for toxic spills into the Nottoway River, which supplies drinking water for Norfolk and Virginia Beach. The federal government sued the firms and has already received \$365,000 from Eastman Chemical Resins, according to settlement papers. The other two companies, Hercules and GEO Specialty Chemicals, agreed to pay \$700,000, officials said. They said there should be no concern over the quality of tap water. The five discharges between 2005 and 2007 occurred downstream from the water intake pipe. The U.S. Department of Justice filed a 40-page civil action for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) against Hercules and GEO September 29, and a settlement agreement was expected to be filed any day. A Hercules spokesman confirmed the matter had been settled. Hercules operated the entire facility until 2001, when it sold off two units to Eastman and GEO. The plant produces rosin, fatty acids, and organic peroxides. The primary raw material is tall oil, a byproduct of wood pulping. Lawsuit allegations include: a dam-andcontainment system at the canal failed to prevent discharges into the river; Hercules failed to implement an emergency response training program and failed to conduct annual training drills; an inventory of storage tanks failed to identify four above-ground tanks containing chemical mixtures, two 300-gallon fatty acid reclamation vats, and many 55-gallon drums of oil; and Hercules failed to report sulfuric acid storage. Source: http://hamptonroads.com/2011/10/spills-nottoway-river-net-1-million-penalties

6. October 5, St. Augustine Record – (Florida) Car, tractor crash near fairgrounds, spilling pesticides. A vehicle crash turned into a hazardous materials scene October 5 when a car and tractor pulling pesticides collided on State Road 207 (SR 207) near St. Augustine, Florida. The vehicles crashed about a mile south of the St. Johns County fairgrounds, spilling 20 to 30 gallons of pesticide, said a county fire rescue spokesman. According to a report from the Florida Highway Patrol (FHP), a 2008 Dodge Charger traveling in the right lane came up on the tractor and trailer driving on the shoulder. The driver of the car didn't slow down in time and clipped the left rear part of the trailer and a tractor tire. The crash caused the car to overturn and come to rest upright in the median. The tank on the trailer ruptured, spilling pesticide onto the roadway and shoulder. The fire rescue spokesman said one person was taken to Flagler Hospital in stable condition. He said the pesticide, was contained by 11:30 a.m. Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) crews cleaned up about 26 gallons of mixed pesticides from the soil, a DEP spokeswoman said. She said the spill did not affect waterways. The FHP said traffic in both directions on SR 207 was closed for about an hour and a half.

Source: http://staugustine.com/news/local-news/2011-10-05/car-tractor-crash-nearfairgrounds-spilling-pesticides#.To2wpnLm9 4

7. October 5, Los Angeles Times – (California) Gov. Jerry Brown signs ban on chemical BPA in baby bottles. California's governor signed a bill banning the chemical bisphenol A, or BPA, from baby bottles and toddlers' drinking cups, the Los Angeles Times reported October 5. The bill, the Toxin-Free Infants and Toddlers Act, had passed the state senate in August. The new law will ban BPA in baby bottles and sippy cups made or sold after July 1, 2013. It will also require manufacturers to use the least toxic alternative to BPA. Similar efforts had failed in recent years. Bill supporters had urged California to follow the lead of other states and nations in restricting BPA,

which has been linked to cardiovascular disease, diabetes, and sexual dysfunction in people, and cancer in mice. Opponents argued the bill could open companies to lawsuits if the chemical is found in baby products after the ban takes effect. Source: http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/greenspace/2011/10/bpa-ban-signed-by-california-governor-jerry-brown.html

For another story, see item 9

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

8. October 5, Associated Press – (International) Nuclear agency urged to review US spent fuel pools. The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) should act immediately to improve the safety of pools containing radioactive waste stored at U.S. nuclear plants, an internal NRC report released October 5 said. The report elevates the importance of spent-fuel pools, stating current regulations do not require instruments measuring water levels to be operable in case of an accident. Water levels at spent-fuel pools were a principal issue after the March 11 earthquake and tsunami that crippled a nuclear plant in Japan. The recommendation on spent-fuel pools is one of eight steps agency staff said the NRC should take "without delay" as it responds to the Japan crisis. The report also recommended immediate reviews of seismic and flooding risks at the nation's 104 nuclear reactors, and suggested plant operators should be required to improve their response to prolonged power blackouts or events that damage more than one reactor at the same time.

Source: http://www.timesunion.com/news/article/Nuclear-agency-urged-to-review-US-spent-fuel-pools-2203940.php

9. October 5, WyoFile – (Wyoming) Spill at Wyoming uranium mine triggers NRC 'special investigation'. The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) launched a "special investigation" October 5 to determine if workers were exposed to yellowcake after an incident at Uranium One USA Inc.'s Irigaray and Christensen Ranch in-situ uranium mine southwest of Gillette, Wyoming. According to a NRC press release, the incident occurred October 2. Two workers were in the vicinity of a "dryer" containing yellowcake — yellow uranium oxide powder — when they heard an alarm and the dryer automatically shut down. "It appears that a seal on the dryer may have broken, causing the yellowcake powder to escape," the NRC stated in the press release. "Current information indicates there were no major safety impacts or release to the environment as the dryer is housed inside a pressurized sealed room within a building." Because of the incident, a NRC inspector traveled to the Wyoming uranium mine October 5 to determine whether workers were exposed to yellowcake, and to evaluate the operator's corrective actions. A NRC spokeswoman told WyoFile it appears the workers were wearing proper protective clothing to avoid exposure to the uranium material. To determine whether there was an exposure, air samples will be analyzed. Also, the workers underwent urinalysis testing.

 $\textbf{Source:} \ \underline{\text{http://wyofile.com/2011/10/spill-at-wyoming-uranium-mine-triggers-special-investigation/}}$

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Critical Manufacturing Sector

10. October 6, U.S. Department of Transportation – (National) NHTSA recall notice - Volkswagen Golf, Jetta; Audi A3 fuel system defect. Volkswagen is recalling 168,275 model year 2009-2012 Jetta and Jetta Sportwagen vehicles, model year 2010-2012 Golf vehicles, and model year 2010-2012 Audi A3 vehicles that are equipped with a 2.0L TDI common rail diesel engine/clean diesel engine. The fuel injection pulses could coincide with the natural frequency of the injector line #2, in specific load and revolutions per minute conditions. This resonance creates additional stress in the fuel line. Due to the resonance condition, injector line number 2 could develop small cracks that would lead to a fuel leakage. Leaking fuel in the presence of an ignition source may lead to a fire. Volkswagen will install an improved fuel injector line for the number 2 cylinder, and will install vibration dampers on all injector lines. Volkswagen and Audi will notify owners to have the vehicles repaired free of charge. The safety recall is expected to begin in November.

Source: http://www-

odi.nhtsa.dot.gov/recalls/recallresults.cfm?start=1&SearchType=QuickSearch&rcl_ID=11V490000&summary=true&prod_id=779783&PrintVersion=YES

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

Nothing to report

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Banking and Finance Sector

11. October 6, Associated Press – (National) Bank of America site appears fixed after 6th day. Bank of America customers had problems accessing their accounts for 6 days. After the site appeared back to normal October 5, the bank blamed the troubles on a system upgrade. The head of online and mobile banking at Bank of America said the slowness and time-outs customers experienced were the result of a "multi-year project" to upgrade its online banking platform. He said testing of certain features and high traffic at the end of the month also contributed to the delays. When the problems first surfaced September 30, he said the bank cast a "wide net" and worked with law enforcement officials to quickly rule out the possibility of third-party interference. In the meantime, the bank said publicly September 30 and afterward that it does not break out causes for Web site problems. The delays meant some customers who normally bank online had to go to branches or ATMs to access their accounts. The head of online and mobile banking said the company was about 60 percent through the upgrade, and did not rule out the possibility of site problems in the future. Bank of America customers also had difficulty accessing their accounts in January and March, and the

firm again blamed routine system upgrades.

Source: http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=141080167

12. October 5, Bloomberg – (International) Frankfurt Bourse temporarily evacuated amid bomb threat. The Frankfurt Stock Exchange, situated in the center of Germany's financial capital, was temporarily evacuated October 5 and some trading interrupted amid a bomb threat as police searched the building. The incident occurred at about 5 p.m., exchange operator Deutsche Boerse AG said in an e-mailed statement. Exchange trading in the fully automated Xetra system was not affected though transactions in the Xetra Frankfurt Specialist model, formerly floor trading, were interrupted in all products, it said. Access to the building was restored about an hour later, and trading on the floor was set to resume at 6:30 p.m., Deutsche Boerse said. "We received a bomb threat via telephone," a police officer at the scene said. The anonymous caller said the bomb would detonate at 5 p.m., he said. Police searched the building but found nothing, he said.

Source: http://www.businessweek.com/news/2011-10-05/frankfurt-bourse-temporarily-evacuated-amid-bomb-threat.html

- 13. October 5, Reuters (New York) Six charged in \$25 mln New York mortgage-fraud bust. Lawyers, loan officers, and a real-estate agent were among six individuals charged October 5 with running a massive mortgage-fraud scheme that bilked \$25 million from financial institutions and wholesale mortgage lenders, federal prosecutors said. Six individuals were arraigned federal court in Brooklyn, New York, in connection with the long-running scheme, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of New York. Each faces up to 30 years if convicted on the charges, which include conspiracy to commit bank and wire fraud. According to a superseding indictment, the defendants obtained millions in mortgage loans from banks and other lenders by submitting false information on loan applications to make recruited borrowers seem more credit-worthy than they were. They also trumped up other documents that deceived lenders about how much money was disbursed at closings on the properties, located primarily in Queens, prosecutors said. From 2001 until July 2010, the defendants raked in commissions and loan fees from the mortgages, prosecutors said. But when borrowers stopped making payments, their loans went into default costing lenders millions, according to the indictment. Lending institutions hit by the fraud include JP Morgan Chase's Chase Home Finance, Countrywide Financial, Fremont Investment and Loan, IndyMac Bank, National City Corporation, Sun Trust Mortgage Inc., and Wells Fargo & Co., prosecutors said. Wholesale mortgage lenders including Lend-Mor Mortgage Bankers Corporation, Mortgage Lenders Network USA, and New Century Mortgage Corporation also lost money in the scheme. Source: http://newsandinsight.thomsonreuters.com/Legal/News/2011/10 -_October/Six_charged_in_\$25_mln_New_York_mortgage-fraud_bust/
- 14. *October 5, KMGH 7 Denver* (Colorado) **Police: man steals \$100K using skimmer on local ATMs.** Boulder County, Colorado, sheriff's deputies October 5 released a picture of a man they said has stolen more than \$100,000. Deputies said the man put a skimming device on an ATM to get bank account information. He took more than \$11,000 from one person's account, deputies said. As deputies investigated, they said

they found other incidents throughout the Denver metropolitan area involving the same man. Some skimmers, like the thief in this case, put a device over the card slot of an ATM, which reads the magnetic strip as the user unknowingly passes their card through it. These devices are often used in conjunction with a miniature camera (inconspicuously attached to the ATM) to read the user's PIN at the same time, deputies said.

Source: http://www.thedenverchannel.com/money/29395290/detail.html

15. October 5, Boston Globe – (National) Westwood hedge fund manager sanctioned \$300,000 on insider trading. A federal judge in New York approved a former Westwood, Massachusetts hedge fund manager's offer to settle for \$300,000 insider trading charges brought against him as part of a nationwide probe of improper tips on technology stocks, regulators said October 5. The hedge fund manager, who ran a \$125 million hedge fund, S2 Capital Management, allegedly violated securities laws on trades he made in Akamai Technologies Inc., the Cambridge Internet traffic manager. According to the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), which filed its case in 2009, the manager received a tip in 2008 about disappointing second-quarter earnings on Akamai. The complaint said he "knew, recklessly disregarded, or should have known" the data he received was not public and had been improperly given to him. Regulators also settled charges they brought against a consultant and investment manager who passed along the insider tip and boasted about it in a conversation captured on tape and played by prosecutors in court. She agreed to pay \$540,000 under the agreement. The SEC secured settlements in the millions from others involved in the scheme. The hedge fund manager also received a tip on transactions related to Advanced Micro Devices Inc., a technology company in Sunnyvale, California, with operations in Boxborough, the SEC alleged. The case sprung from an investigation of hedge fund giant Galleon Management, and cast a wide net to other hedge funds, hightech executives, and consultants who allegedly were paid to provide investors with nonpublic information on public companies. The SEC said it dismissed its case against the manager's S2 Capital Management, which was based in New York City and had "ceased operations and is essentially defunct." He separately pleaded guilty in 2009 to criminal charges related to the securities case in New York, and has been cooperating with investigators.

Source: http://www.boston.com/Boston/businessupdates/2011/10/westwood-hedge-fund-manager-sanctioned-insider-trading/Mr2eZxOm2gOLzgeoU1IUOO/index.html

16. October 5, United States Department of Justice – (International) Superseding indictment filed in \$670 million fraud scheme. A Costa Rican company, its president, and its auditor were charged in a superseding indictment filed October 4 in U.S. District Court in Richmond, Virginia, for their alleged roles in a \$670-million fraud involving victims throughout the United States, and abroad. The company allegedly sold reinsurance bonds to life settlement companies. The superseding indictment charges Provident Capital Indemnity Ltd. (PCI), and two men each with one count of conspiracy to commit mail and wire fraud, three counts of mail fraud, and three counts of wire fraud. In addition, one man is charged with three counts of money laundering. The superseding indictment also seeks forfeiture of more than \$40 million from all three defendants. If convicted, the men face up to 20 years in prison on each fraud

count, and up to 10 years in prison on each money-laundering count. The defendants allegedly engaged in a scheme to defraud clients and investors by making misrepresentations and omissions designed to mislead PCI's clients and potential clients regarding its ability to pay claims when due on the guarantee bonds PCI issued. PCI issued these bonds to companies that sold life settlements or securities backed by life settlements to investors. These companies then used PCI's bonds to claim they had eliminated one of the primary risks of investing in life settlements, namely the possibility the individual insured by the underlying insurance policy will live beyond her life expectancy. The superseding indictment alleges that from 2004 through 2010, PCI sold about \$670 million of bonds to life settlement investment companies in various countries, including the United States, the Netherlands, Germany, and Canada. PCI's clients, in turn, sold investment offerings backed by PCI's bonds to thousands of investors around the world. Purchasers of PCI's bonds were allegedly required to pay up-front payments of 6 to 11 percent of the underlying settlement as "premium" payments to PCI before the company would issue the bonds.

Source: http://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/2011/October/11-crm-1324.html

For more stories, see items 31 and 32

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Transportation Sector

- 17. October 6, Southeast Missourian (Missouri) Derailment near Nash Road disrupts train traffic. A train that derailed October 5 near Nash Road in Cape Girardeau, Missouri, caused disruptions in railway traffic. Fifteen empty cars on a Burlington Northern Santa Fe train derailed around 3 p.m. at railroad mile marker 139, said a firefighter with the Delta Fire Department. The train was not a passenger train, and no hazardous materials were spilled. The firefighter did not know the cause of the derailment. The derailment was backing up railway traffic on that track, he said. Crews from St. Louis were to start cleaning up the cars around 9 p.m. October 5. Source: http://www.semissourian.com/story/1770668.html?response=no
- 18. October 6, Grand Island Independent (Nebraska) Bus/semi crash on I-80 injures

 41. Five people remain hospitalized following an accident on Interstate 80 near Gibbon, Nebraska, involving two semi trucks and a bus early October 6. The driver of a Burlington Trailways bus was in critical condition at Good Samaritan Hospital in Kearney, according to a press release from the Nebraska State Patrol (NSP). One bus passenger was listed in serious condition, and two other passengers were in fair condition. The driver of the semi trucks, was also in fair condition. The crash was caused when a westbound semi tractor trailer hauling dry cereal drifted into the median and overturned on the roadway when the driver overcorrected, a NSP communications supervisor said. The accident occurred around 2 a.m., 2 miles east of the Gibbon interchange. The overturned truck and trailer blocked both westbound lanes. A second semi clipped the trailer of the overturned truck and came to rest upright in the north ditch, the NSP spokesman said. The bus was traveling in the west passing lane and unable to stop before it collided with the overturned semi. The bus, which was traveling

from Omaha to Denver, came to rest upright in the median. The driver of the overturned trailer, and all 41 people on the bus were taken to Good Samaritan Hospital. The westbound lanes of I-80 were closed from 2 to 6:30 a.m., but troopers remained at the scene after the road reopened.

Source: http://www.theindependent.com/articles/2011/10/06/news/local/13996262.txt

- 19. October 6, Youngstown Vindicator (Ohio) 'Sunkink' blamed for derailment. The CSX train derailment at the Fifth Street crossing on the south end of Niles, Ohio, July 30 was caused by what rail officials call "sunkink" — an expanding and bending of rail tracks as a result of heat. The 2:30 p.m. derailment, which did not require any evacuation or cause any injuries, resulted in \$734,000 in damage to train equipment, track, signals, and structures, CSX reported to the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA). Among the damage was destruction of the Fifth Street bridge, which carried vehicle traffic over the rail line between the Fifth Street neighborhood and Salt Springs Road. The bridge, owned by CSX, has been closed since the accident. Before the derailment, the bridge was heavily used by motorists traveling between Niles and Lordstown. CSX will replace the bridge this winter and expects it to be ready by spring, said the Niles grant and development coordinator. In its report to the FRA, CSX said 17 of its 50 train cars derailed. Only one of the cars was empty. The total weight was 5,468 tons. The train was traveling 52 miles per hour. Source: http://www.vindy.com/news/2011/oct/06/8216sunkink8217-blamed-forderailment/
- 20. October 5, Beaver County Times (Pennsylvania) Barge carrying gravel sinks in Ohio River. A barge carrying gravel sank October 5 in the Ohio River near the Emsworth Lock and Dam in Pittsburgh. A spokesman for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers said the tow boat captain contacted lock personnel around 6 p.m. when a barge began taking on water about a mile downstream from the lock. The spokesman said the barge sank in the navigation channel and was blocking river traffic exiting the lock. A river salvage company was contacted to raise the barge.

 Source: http://www.timesonline.com/news/local_news/barge-carrying-gravel-sinks-in-ohio-river/article_184b5308-c6e8-5ee5-a442-a2860e6da79f.html
- 21. October 5, Associated Press (Washington) Loaded handgun in carry-on bag at Seattle airport. A federal Transportation Security Administration (TSA) spokeswoman said TSA agents found a loaded handgun with extra ammunition in the carry-on bag of a man getting ready to board a plane from Seattle-Tacoma International Airport in Washington, to Minneapolis. The spokeswoman said Port of Seattle police arrested the man October 5 at a security checkpoint. She described the weapon as a .380-caliber handgun loaded with six rounds. A loaded spare clip was also found. Source: http://www.kndo.com/story/15628598/loaded-handgun-in-carry-on-bag-at-seattle-airport
- 22. *October 4, WBZ 4 Boston* (Massachusetts) **Flash flooding hits North Shore.** Heavy rain and flash flooding surprised residents on the North Shore in Massachusetts October 4. In Swampscott, 5.5 inches of rain in 2 hours left basements flooded, cars stranded, and fields swamped. So many streets flooded in Peabody they were forced to

cancel school October 4. The mayor declared a state of emergency. The fire department said 10 neighborhoods were flooded, which includes more than 100 homes. The police department's garage was flooded, and some cruisers and motorcycles were damaged. Trucks at the Massachusetts Highway Depot on Route 1 were also underwater. Swampscott delayed the start of school 2 hours, and Salem State University canceled all classes because of the flooding.

 $\label{eq:source:http://boston.cbslocal.com/2011/10/04/flooding-shuts-down-peabody-streets-schools/?hpt=us_bn4$

For more stories, see items 3, 6, and 27

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Postal and Shipping Sector

Nothing to report

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Agriculture and Food Sector

- 23. October 6, WLWT 5 Cincinnati (Ohio) Fire at Franklin restaurant ruled arson. A fire that destroyed a restaurant in Franklin, Ohio, has been ruled arson, WLWT 5 Cincinnati reported October 6. The Ohio State Fire Marshal's Office announced a \$5,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of whoever is responsible for setting the fire at P.H. Bistro. The fire started at about 7:40 a.m. October 3. The fire triggered a backdraft, which caused an explosion that blew the windows out of the front of the building. The building partially collapsed as a result of the fire. Several buildings next to the restaurant were also damaged in the fire. Fire officials said they are guarding the charred bricks and metal to save them from looters. Source: http://www.wlwt.com/r/29394447/detail.html
- 24. October 3, SourceMedia Group (Iowa) Study pegs crop losses from Missouri River flooding at \$207 million. Flooding along the Iowa side of the Missouri River in 2011 did at least \$207 million in damages to crops and related economic activities in six western Iowa counties that border the river, according to a study commissioned by the Iowa Farm Bureau Federation released October 3. The estimated losses come as flood waters recede and farmers finally are able to assess damage to several hundred thousand acres of corn and soybeans fields many planted before a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' decision in late June to increase water flows from upstream dams due to heavy snow and record rainfall that swelled water levels. The study which focused on Fremont, Harrison, Mills, Monona, Pottawattamie, and Woodbury counties analyzed the direct and indirect economic impacts from crop losses due to flooded fields, as well as lost wages and other impacts that would not occur because income from lost crops would not circulate through the six-county area, said the IFBF director of research and commodity services.

Source: http://easterniowagovernment.com/2011/10/03/study-pegs-crop-losses-from-missouri-river-flooding-at-207-million/

For more stories, see items $\underline{6}$, $\underline{28}$, and $\underline{48}$

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Water Sector

See items 5 and 44

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

- 25. October 6, KATU 2 Portland (Oregon) Six workers injured by chemical in envelope at VA hospital. Six workers in the administration and research building of a Portland Veterans Hospital in Portland, Oregon, were isolated after suffering some kind of skin irritation injury, according to Portland Fire and Rescue. A spokesman told KATU 2 Portland four workers reported injuries after opening an envelope just after 4:30 p.m. October 5. Those workers were isolated, and the building's ventilation system was shut down. Initially, Portland Fire and Rescue said the envelope contained a white powdery substance. But the spokesman for Veterans Hospital said it was not white powder. The workers suffered from burns on their faces, mouths, eyes and hands, according to firefighters. The employees were treated with soap and water. In addition to the four workers, two members of the security team, who reported similar injuries when they checked on the situation, were also isolated. No patients were at risk. To determine what it is, the substance is now being studied by the FBI crime lab. Source: http://www.katu.com/news/local/131186278.html
- 26. October 5, New York Times (California) Stanford Hospital patient data breach is **detailed.** The New York Times reported October 5 that hospital and contractors confirmed the private medical data for nearly 20,000 emergency room patients at California's Stanford Hospital were exposed to public view for nearly a year because a billing contractor's marketing agent sent the electronic spreadsheet to a job prospect as part of a skills test. The applicant then sought help by unwittingly posting the confidential data on a tutoring Web site. In an e-mail sent to a victim of the breach, the contractor and president of Multi-Specialty Collection Services in Los Angeles explained his marketing vendor had received the data directly from Stanford Hospital, converted it to a new spreadsheet and then forwarded it to a woman he was considering for a short-term job. The position was with Corcino & Associates, and the applicant apparently was challenged to convert the spreadsheet — which included names, admission dates, diagnosis codes and billing charges — into a bar graph and charts. Not knowing she had been given real patient data, the applicant posted it as an attachment to a request for help on studentoffortune.com, which allows students to solicit paid assistance with their work. First posted September 9, 2010, the spreadsheet remained on the site until a patient discovered it August 22 and notified Stanford.

Source: http://www.nytimes.com/2011/10/06/us/stanford-hospital-patient-data-breach-is-detailed.html

For another story, see item 44

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Government Facilities Sector

27. October 6, NBC Washington – (District of Columbia) Suspicious device near Capitol identified. Capitol Police discovered a small metal cylinder on Pennsylvania Avenue NW near the reflecting pool in front of the U.S. Capitol in Washington D.C., October 6. Streets were shut down and a robot was called in to investigate. But the suspicious device was eventually found to be nothing more than a piece of equipment used to inspect sewer pipes, an NBC News correspondent reported. An officer spotted the object at about 7 a.m., and law enforcement officials said they were investigating it as a suspicious device. Investigators put the device into an X-ray machine, but Capitol police said "it was too dense to see what's inside." A team placed the cylinder inside a bomb squad vehicle, and it was to be transported to Quantico, Virginia. Surrounding roadways were shut down for the investigation. The affected roads: First Street NW from Garfield Circle to Constitution Avenue and Pennsylvania Ave SE from First Street to 3rd street SE.

Source: http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/44800111/ns/local_news-washington_dc/

For more stories, see items 22 and 29

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Emergency Services Sector

28. October 6, Paradise Post – (California) Magalia volunteer firefighter arrested in upper ridge arsons. California fire authorities arrested a 31-year-old Magalia volunteer firefighter October 4 on nine charges of arson, including the burning of three historic upper ridge buildings. He was arrested without incident by California Fire investigators at his Paradise business, the Cal Fire-Butte County unit chief said. He is suspected of intentionally sparking the fires that consumed the DeSabla Market and Lovelock Inn, and two attempts to burn the Magalia Depot. He is also suspected of burning a home on Columbine Road, and of starting three small vegetation fires, the unit chief said. The first of the fires was sparked July 30 and the most recent September 23. DeSabla Market, which included two buildings, one with a family living inside, was ignited about 4 a.m. August 4, while nearly simultaneously a small grass fire on Dogtown Road was reported. On September 5, the arsonist allegedly set a structure fire on Pinion Road, and the next day a home on Columbine was set afire. On September 18, it is alleged he struck Magalia Depot. Then came the Lovelock Inn in the early hours of September 20. On September 23, investigators allege he struck the Magalia Depot a second time.

Source: http://www.chicoer.com/fromthenewspaper/ci 19052702

- 29. October 5, California State Daily Sundial (California) Emergency alerts delayed for some students, faculty and parents. Emergency alerts warning students, faculty, and parents of a possible gunman on the California State University, Northridge (CSUN) campus in Northridge, California, September 27 were sent around 11:45 a.m., over an hour after police were notified. However, some people admitted to not receiving the message until later in the day, if at all. A cinema and television arts professor said she did not receive her alert through SMS, or text, until 2:26 p.m., almost 3 hours later than other members of the campus community. Emergency alerts are sent directly from CSUN Police Services through Blackboard Connect, a mass notification service. The campus was not notified to lock their doors during the September 27 incident, but there is safety information posted around CSUN in case of an emergency. Source: http://sundial.csun.edu/2011/10/emergency-alerts-delayed-for-some-students-faculty-and-parents/
- 30. October 5, KTVX 4 Salt Lake City (Utah) Utah inmates get botulism from alcohol brewed in jail. Health officials said 12 Utah State Prison inmates have been diagnosed with probable food-borne Botulism, KTVX 4 Salt Lake City reported October 5. The Salt Lake Valley Health Department (SLVHD) confirmed the illness was found in 12 inmates, and that eight were receiving treatment at a local hospital, while the other four were under medical observation at the prison. Health officials said all of the inmates consumed homemade alcohol brewed inside a cell at the prison. Initial reports suggested the alcohol was brewed in a toilet, but prison officials later confirmed the mixture was brewed in a plastic bag. It was not known where the inmates kept the bag hidden from guards. SLVHD officials said Botulism is a rare but serious paralytic illness caused by a nerve toxin produced by bacteria.

Source: http://www.abc4.com/content/news/top_stories/story/Utah-Inmates-get-botulism-from-alcohol-brewed-in/vBfaaMNI6UiUkIkxIURU6Q.cspx

31. October 5, WTVJ 6 Miami – (Florida) Ex-BSO detention deputy convicted in \$100k credit card scam. A former deputy detention officer with the Broward Sheriff's Office in Broward County, Florida, has been convicted of conspiracy charges for her role in a \$100,000 credit card scam, a U.S. attorney's office announced. She faces a possible maximum sentence of 20 years in prison for conspiracy to commit mail fraud. Prosecutors said she developed a relationship with a former inmate, who with others used identities stolen from mainly elderly victims to fraudulently apply for Chevron Visa cards. The officer allowed the inmate to use her address on the illegally opened credit card accounts, prosecutors said, and handed them over to the inmate when they arrived in the mail. Her sentencing is scheduled for December.

Source: http://www.nbcmiami.com/news/local/Ex-BSO-Detention-Deputy-Convicted-in-100k-Credit-Card-Scam--131191308.html

For more stories, see items 22 and 38

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Information Technology Sector

- 32. October 6, Softpedia (International) Zeus trojan hides in chamber of commerce emails. Business owners might easily fall for the latest e-mails that seem to be coming from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, announcing their intention of helping the victim. What users do not know is the note's attachment actually contains bank-account stealing trojan Zeus. According to AppRiver, the logo in the message's header and its footer's content are taken from the legitimate Web site of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. As with most malware campaigns, the message is written with a big blue font, revealing vague information that would arouse someone's curiosity. An attachment contains a malicious element that opens a backdoor, giving miscreants access to the device. It then aims to download other aggressive software. Finally, it tries to connect two domains, jokeins(dot)com and agrofond(dot)com, from which it requests a start.exe file that contains Zeus. The trojan takes over the operation and makes a miuf.exe process that creates a keylogger that launches periodic pings to different domains in the effort of receiving further instructions. The piece of malware also sends out UDP packages to announce other components of its presence. Source: http://news.softpedia.com/news/ZeuS-Trojan-Hides-in-Chamber-of-Commerce-Emails-225850.shtml
- 33. *October* 6, *The Register* (International) **Facebook scammers exploit Steve Jobs' death.** Facebook scammers are exploiting news of the death of Apple's founder as a theme for survey scams. The users targeted by the scam are told an unnamed firm is giving away 50 iPads in memory of the deceased. Applicants are invited to complete an online survey to "qualify" for the prize. The offer is entirely bogus. Even so, more than 15,000 people have already clicked through to the bogus survey site, net security firm Sophos reported.

Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2011/10/06/jobs death facebook scam lure/

34. October 6, The Register – (International) Attack on Apache server exposes firewalls, routers and more. Maintainers of the open-source Apache Web server warned their HTTP daemon is vulnerable to exploits that expose internal servers to remote attackers who embed special commands in Web site addresses. The weakness in 1.3 and all 2.x versions of the Apache HTTP Server can be exploited only under certain conditions. For one, they must be running in reverse proxy mode, a setting often used to perform load balancing or to separate static content from dynamic content. And even then, internal systems are susceptible to unauthorized access only when certain types of reverse proxy rewrite rules are used. Nonetheless, the vulnerable reverse proxy configurations are common enough that Apache maintainers issued an advisory October 5 recommending users examine systems to make sure they are not at risk. "When using the RewriteRule or ProxyPassMatch directives to configure a reverse proxy using a pattern match, it is possible to inadvertently expose internal servers to remote users who send carefully crafted requests," the advisory stated. "The server did not validate that the input to the pattern match was a valid path string, so a pattern could expand to an unintended target URL." The vulnerability was reported by Context Information Security. Researchers said the weakness can be exploited to gain unauthorized access to a highly sensitive DMZ, or "demilitarized zone" resources inside an organization that should be available only to validated users. Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2011/10/06/apache webserver attack/

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35. October 6, The Register – (International) Android malware under blog control says
Trend Micro. Trend Micro has found a Chinese Android malware that operates partly
under the command and control of a blog. The ANDROIDOS_ANSERVERBOT(dot)A
malware is disguised as an e-book reader offered on a third-party Chinese app store. It
uses two command and control (C&C) servers, one of them served out of a blog with
encrypted posts. Posts to the blog identify the URL of the primary C&C server. This
presumably gives the malware's makers a way to move their C&C server around to
avoid detection. The blog also hosts new copies of
ANDROIDOS_ANASERVERBOT(dot)A which are downloaded when the software
connects. The security company also notes that upon installation, the supposed e-book
reader asks for an unreasonable number of permissions — should the user allow
installation after reading the permission requests, the malware can access network
settings and the Internet, control a device's vibration alert, disable key locks, make
calls, read low-level logfiles, read and write contact details, restart apps, wake the
device, and use SMS. Targeted at Chinese users, the app also disables security software

Source:

from Qihoo360 and Tencent, among others.

http://www.theregister.co.uk/2011/10/06/trend_discovers_more_android_malware/

36. October 5, IDG News Service – (International) Drive-by download attack on **Facebook used malicious ads.** Antivirus vendor Trend Micro has detected a drive-by download attack on Facebook that used malicious advertisements to infect users with malware. "We encountered an infection chain, wherein the user is led from a page within Facebook to a couple of ad sites, and then finally to a page that hosts exploits," the company's security researchers warned October 4. "When we traced the connection between the ad sites and Facebook, we found the ad providers were affiliated with a certain Facebook application. We checked on the said app, and found that it is indeed, ad-supported." Such "Malvertising" attacks are usually the result of lax background screening practices by ad networks or sale teams. Attackers impersonate legitimate advertisers to get ads approved and later swap them with malicious code. Facebook also dealt with this form of abuse in the past, but in those cases the ads were used to display fake security alerts that led to scareware. Malvertisements that bundle drive-by download exploits for vulnerabilities in popular browser plug-ins, or even the browser itself, are much more dangerous since they do not require any user interaction. In this case, users were directed to a page that loaded Java and ActiveX exploits, but while the attacked ActiveX vulnerability was patched in 2006, the Java ones were more recent, dating from 2010.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9220557/Drive_by_download_attack_on_Facebook_used_malicious_ads

37. October 5, threatpost – (International) Malware using white lists, forgery, kernel attacks to stay alive. Rootkit programs are increasingly mimicking antivirus programs: adopting self-protection features and application whitelists to maintain control over the systems they control, according to a presentation at the annual Virus Bulletin Conference. A research scientist at McAfee told an audience of antivirus researchers that self-protection features have become common in many leading families of rootkits,

such as the TDSS and TDL4 rootkit. Application white lists that allow only applications approved by the rootkit authors to run are used to disable hostile programs, while built-in monitoring features to shut down anti-malware programs and prevent critical malware components from being disabled have also been observed in newer generation rootkits. The research scientist said McAfee researchers are increasingly finding evidence of attempts to kill antivirus and anti-rootkit drivers using attacks at the kernel level of an infected system. While malware attempts to shut down antivirus programs within the user mode environment have been well documented, kernel mode attacks to snuff out AV programs are a newer development, and much harder to thwart, he said.

Source: http://threatpost.com/en_us/blogs/rootkits-adopting-whitelists-self-defense-features-stay-alive-100511

For more stories, see items 11, 15, and 38

Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at sos@us-cert.gov or visit their Web site: http://www.us-cert.gov

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Web site: https://www.it-isac.org

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Communications Sector

38. October 5, IDG News Service – (National) FCC tells retailers to stop selling mobile phone jammers. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has issued warnings to 20 online retailers selling illegal mobile phone jammers, GPS jammers, Wi-Fi jammers, and other signal jamming devices, the agency said October 5. The sale and use of devices that jam the signals of authorized radio communications are illegal in the United States, the FCC said in its enforcement action. The agency will "vigorously" prosecute violations going forward, it said in a press release. "Jamming devices pose significant risks to public safety and can have unintended and sometimes dangerous consequences for consumers and first responders," the chief of the FCC's enforcement bureau said in a statement. Jammers, sometimes used in classrooms, theaters and churches, are prohibited because they can prevent individuals from contacting police and fire departments or family members during an emergency, the FCC said. The 20 retailers were marketing more than 200 jamming devices, the FCC said. Among the jammers being sold were GPS blockers for vehicles, high-tech signal blockers with remote control capabilities, and jammers disguised as paintings and cigarette packs, the agency said. The FCC ordered each online retailer to immediately stop marketing signal-jamming devices in the United States. If a retailer gets a second citation from the FCC, it could face fines ranging from \$16,000 to \$112,500, with a separate penalty possible for each device sold or each day a device is marketed, the agency said. Additional violations could result in the seizure of equipment and prison

time, the FCC said.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9220573/FCC_tells_retailers_to_stop_selling _mobile_phone_jammers

For more stories, see items <u>11</u>, <u>29</u>, <u>35</u>, and <u>36</u>

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Commercial Facilities Sector

- 39. October 6, WXII 12 Winston-Salem (North Carolina) 13-year-old charged in church arson. Winston-Salem, North Carolina police said a 13-year-old boy is facing charges in a July fire that was set at the New Hope Missionary Baptist Church, WXII 12 Winston-Salem reported October 6. The boy is being held at the youth detention center. The fire did \$39,000 in damage to the building on New Hope Lane and the contents inside, including an organ. The fire was one in a string of arsons to vehicles and vacant houses. Police did not say if the teen was tied to any of the other cases. Source: http://www.wxii12.com/r/29398316/detail.html
- 40. October 6, Wilmington News Journal (Delaware) Blaze spreads through seven Wilmington homes. Nearly 20 people are homeless as a result of a fire early October 5 that spread through seven houses in Wilmington, Delaware's East Side neighborhood. All of the homes on the east side of the street sustained fire damage. The Wilmington Fire Marshal is investigating the fire. Several neighbors said there was a fire on the same block October 3 that started in the house next to where the fire October 5 started. Fire officials said they would not comment about a possible connection to the previous fire until they spoke with investigators. The most recent fire reached two alarms as fire crews responded and saw heavy smoke coming from several roofs. The fire spread to adjacent homes and firefighters had to cut open all of the roofs to extinguish the fire. The fire was ruled under control an hour after it began, but it displaced residents who were not able to get their belongings until late afternoon.

 Source: http://www.delawareonline.com/article/20111006/NEWS01/110060342/Blaze-spreads-through-seven-Wilmington-homes
- 41. October 6, msnbc.com; Associated Press (California) Calif. workplace killing suspect reportedly shot dead. The suspect in the shootings at Permanente Quarry in Santa Clara, California that left three dead and six others wounded, was shot and killed the morning of October 6 after a massive manhunt, law enforcement sources told KNTV 11 San Jose. The suspect, believed to be the gunman who fired shots at a company safety meeting October 5, was reportedly shot by police in the Sunnyvale neighborhood that police had searched a day earlier. The Santa Clara County Sheriff later told reporters that the coroner still must identify the body, but that investigators believe it is the suspect. Three deputies were on routine patrol when they encountered a man crouched behind a vehicle in the driveway of a home, she said. He matched the suspect's description, she added, and the deputies opened fire after the man displayed a handgun. After leaving the quarry, officials said the suspect attempted to carjack a

woman near Hewlett-Packard Co.'s Cupertino campus. He did not get away with her car, but officials said he shot her before fleeing the scene.

Source: http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/44799232/ns/us_news-crime_and_courts/?gt1=43001#.To39tXJnAxG

42. October 5, KTNV 13 Las Vegas – (Nevada) Mattress fire prompts evacuation at Rio Hotel. Four floors of the Rio All-Suites Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas were evacuated the afternoon of October 5 after a mattress caught fire. Firefighters were called to the Rio after smoke was reported coming from a room on the 38th floor at about 3:30 p.m. By the time crews reached the scene, the sprinklers had put out the fire, but smoke had spread to several floors. Authorities said floors 36-39 were evacuated as a precaution. They remained cleared hours after as crews worked to investigate the cause of the fire, and to clean up water from the sprinklers that went off.

Source: http://www.ktnv.com/news/local/131182878.html

43. October 5, Associated Press – (Texas) Fire destroys half of Santa Fe church. Authorities are investigating after a fire destroyed half a church in the small Texas town of Santa Fe, the Associated Press reported October 5. Firefighters found flames shooting through the roof early October 4 when they arrived at Full Gospel Lighthouse Church of Santa Fe. Firefighters had the fire under control within an hour. The Santa Fe fire chief told the Galveston County Daily News that the front part of the church was destroyed. A Galveston County Sheriff's Office spokesman said arson investigators were sent to the scene.

Source: http://www.myfoxhouston.com/dpp/news/faith/111005-santa-fe-church-fire

- 44. October 5, Associated Press (Maryland) Health officials announce 3 cases of legionellosis in guests at Ocean City hotel. An Ocean City, Maryland hotel is voluntarily closing a week earlier than planned for the season after three people who were guests developed legionellosis about a week after staying there, the Associated Press reported October 5. Maryland's health department made the announcement October 5. The health department said it has not confirmed that the guests acquired the illness at the Plim Plaza Hotel, and an investigation is ongoing. The three people were hospitalized. The department said preliminary results from water samples suggest the presence of Legionella bacteria in hotel water, but final culture results are not expected until the end of the week of October 10 at the earliest. Legionellosis is a form of pneumonia caused by inhaling aerosolized water, or water mist, containing Legionella bacteria. Symptoms include abdominal pain, diarrhea, or severe body aches.

 Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/local/health-officials-announce-3-cases-of-legionellosis-in-guests-at-ocean-city-hotel/2011/10/05/gIQAyPD0NL_story.html
- 45. *October 4, Lake County News* (California) **Possible pipe bomb discovered, safely detonated.** An apparent pipe bomb discovered by a child in Clearlake Park, California, October 3 was destroyed without incident, according to an October 4 report. A police sergeant said a citizen contacted the Clearlake Police Department to report his son found a suspicious device. Officers found it appeared to be a pipe bomb. The sergeant said the device was made of a metal pipe and had wires protruding from one of the capped ends. With coordination through the Lake County Office of Emergency

Services, the Napa County Bomb Squad was dispatched. The sergeant said the device was examined and eventually destroyed without incident by the bomb squad. Personnel from the Napa County Bomb squad reported that the device contained gun powder and a 9 volt battery that was connected to the wires.

Source: http://lakeconews.com/content/view/21716/919/

For more stories, see items <u>22</u>, <u>23</u>, <u>28</u>, <u>32</u>, <u>38</u>, and <u>46</u>

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National Monuments and Icons Sector

46. October 6, Omaha World-Herald – (Nebraska) Damage in millions as blaze fought. Firefighters and other volunteers continued to battle flames in Stapleton, and Logan County, Nebraska, October 5, trying to contain a wildfire that has claimed several homes, and caused millions in damage. The governor has declared a state of emergency. The response to the fires has included many fire departments, the state fire marshal's office, the Nebraska State Patrol, the Logan County Sheriff's Office, the Red Cross, the Salvation Army, local emergency management, the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency, and the department of roads. The fire started the afternoon of October 4 in Lincoln County 1.5 miles east of U.S. Highway 83, and about 12 miles south of Stapleton. According to the Stapleton fire chief, a combine in a soybean field sparked the fire. The fire soon raced out of control, fueled by 30 mph winds with gusts up to 41 mph. The Logan County sheriff, said the fire jumped Highway 83, went northwest, and jumped the section of Highway 92 that runs east and west through Stapleton. He said it was stopped about 2 miles north and a mile west of the village. Officials said the fire could not yet be considered contained, because of its span. Source: http://www.omaha.com/article/20111006/NEWS01/710069875

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Dams Sector

- 47. October 6, Wilkes-Barre Times Leader (Pennsylvania) West Pittston wants levee. West Pittston, Pennsylvania officials have agreed to seek a meeting with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and state and federal officials to formally request a levee, the Wilkes-Barre Times Leader reported October 6. The borough was among the hardest hit in September when the rain-swollen Susquehanna River caused millions in damages. The decision to pursue a levee was made October 4. Many residents had objected to a levee when the Corps held a hearing to seek public input years ago. The Corps ultimately decided against pursuing a levee, determining the potential dollar loss of property from flooding did not exceed the cost of constructing a levee, officials said. Source: http://www.timesleader.com/news/West_Pittston_wants_levee_10-06-2011.html
- 48. October 5, Vancouver Columbian (Oregon; Washington) Repair work begins at damaged Bonneville fish ladder. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers said crews began

repair work on a damaged fish ladder the week of October 3 at the Bonneville Lock and Dam near Portland, Oregon. Erosion occurred during sustained high water on the Columbia River earlier in 2011, causing damage near the spillway under the fish ladder that flows past the Bradford Island Visitor Center, according to the Corps. Workers planned to dewater the fish ladder while structural repairs are made. Repairs to the damaged section of the dam are planned for completion by the end of October. Source: http://www.columbian.com/news/2011/oct/05/repair-work-begins-damaged-bonneville-fish-ladder/

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To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Web page at www.us-cert.gov.

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